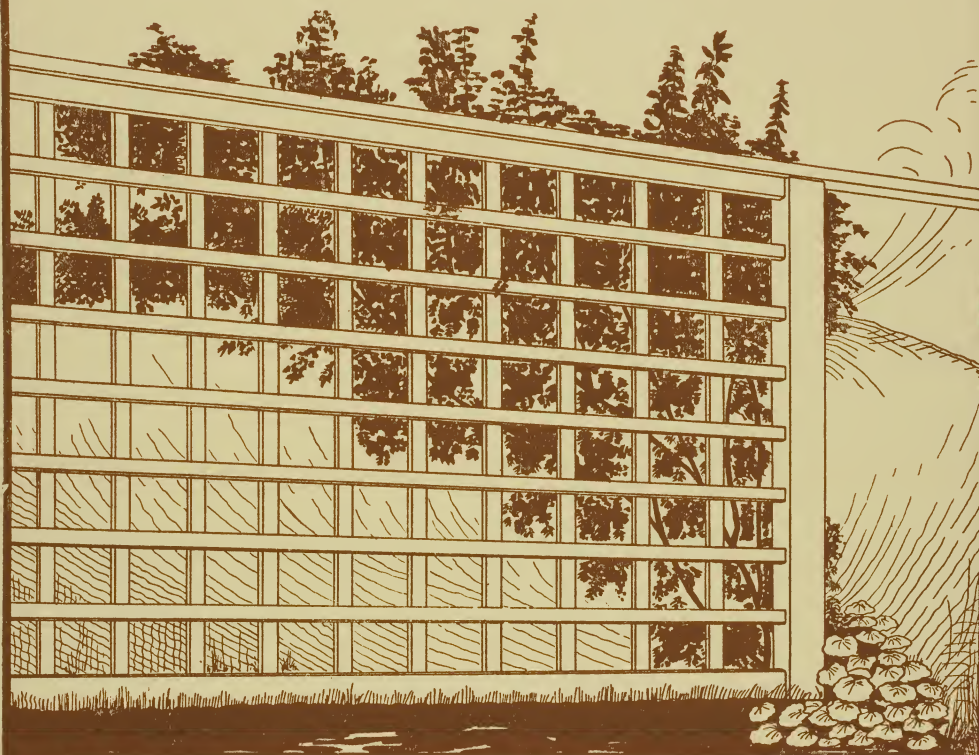


California Garden



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Premium List For Fall Flower Show

SEPTEMBER, 1920

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Information Cheerfully Given on All Plant Troubles.

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 12

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER, 1920

No. 3

The Survival of the Fittest

Among savage and ignorant people, this is apt to be the factor which develops a sort of resistant strain of human beings, who, if they survive the unfavorable conditions under which they are forced or choose to exist, are capable of surviving almost anything the human body may be reasonably expected to endure.

This is an automatic process, is very wasteful and not at all to be compared to the process of intelligent selection by culling practiced nowadays by progressive poultrymen, live stock raisers, etc., except in the final result. No first class poultryman, for example, would think of retaining stunted or inferior birds in his flock, nor would a really up-to-date cattleman or horseman tolerate scrub stock in his "string."

And all this in a large way applies to our gardens, for after all the plant realm and the animal kingdom parallel in many of their needs and habits. Plants are subject to effects of environment, food, care, climatic conditions, etc. They have very markedly their likes and dislikes, their diseases, ranging from the highly infectious bacterial diseases to just

plain indigestion from overindulgence in certain foods. So it is not hard to see why we may apply much the same processes in bringing about the results we wish to obtain in our roses, our bedding plants, our trees, shrubs, vines, etc., which the live stock raiser uses in his work. And all this is a preface to the preachment with which we are impelled to occupy space, to-wit., don't save seed from any plant which happens to mature it; don't give garden space to inferior varieties of whatever it may be, just because someone gives it to you or because it happens to be already planted. Don't hesitate to remove plants or even trees which are below standard, for sometimes one comes into the possession of a fruit tree, for example, which is in the same class as an unproductive cow. Better give the space it occupies and the care it requires to something worth while. For while good care and nourishment will sometimes perform miracles with "below grade" material, think what the result would be if the same conditions were supplied to first class "stock." Let the slogan be, "Intelligent selection makes good gardens".

Twelve Rules For Floriculture

1. Whatever is worth growing at all is worth growing well.

2. Study soil and exposure, and cultivate no more space than can be kept in perfect order.

3. Plant thickly. it is easier and more profitable to raise flowers than weeds.

4. Avoid stiffness and exact balancing; garden vases and garden flowers need not necessarily be used in pairs.

5. A flower is essentially feminine and demands attention as the price of its smiles.

6. Let there be harmony and beauty of color. Magenta in any form is a discord that should never jar.

7. In studying color effects, do not over-

look white as a foil; white is the lens of the garden's eye.

8. Think twice and then still think before placing a tree, shrub, or plant in position. Think twice before removing a specimen tree.

9. Grow an abundance of flowers for cutting; the bees and butterflies are not entitled to all the spoils.

10. Keep on good terms with your neighbor; you may wish a large garden favor of him some day.

11. Love a flower in advance and plant something every year.

12. Show me a well-ordered garden and I will show you a genial home.

GEORGE H. ELLWANGER.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

PREMIUM LIST

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

FALL FLOWER SHOW

Cristobal Building, October 10, 11 and 12

Section A.—Open to Professionals.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Class 1. Best collection of decorative plants arranged for effect in space about 10x10 feet. | Class 34. Best six blooms red or red shaded Zinnias. |
| Class 2. Best collection twenty-five shrubs for garden use. | Class 35. Best six blooms pink or pink shaded Zinnias. |
| Class 3. Best collection fifteen vines. | Class 36. Best six blooms yellow or yellow shaded Zinnias. |
| Class 4. Best display of potted or boxed ferns. | Class 37. Best six blooms any other color Zinnias. |
| Class 5. Best specimen fern; any variety. | Class 38. Best jardinier arrangement of Zinnias. |
| Class 6. Best fern hanging basket. | Class 39. Best vase, basket or other arrangement of Zinnias. |
| Class 7. Best hanging basket other than ferns. | Class 40. Best display of Asters. |
| Class 8. Best decorative plant. | Class 41. Best display of Marigolds. |
| Class 9. Best new plant or flower not shown before. | Class 42. Best display of Cannas. |
| Class 10. Best pair tub or urn plants stand-exposure. | Class 43. Best display of Gladiolas. |
| Class 11. Best collection potted plants. | Class 44. Best display of Annuals. |
| Class 12. Best collection Begonias, cut or potted. | Class 45. Best display of Perennials. |
| Class 13. Best collection Dahlias. | Class 46. Best basket of Annuals. |
| Class 14. Best collection San Diego County seedling dahlias. | Class 47. Best new flower or plant not before exhibited. |
| Class 15. Best vase, basket or other arrangement of Zinnias. | Class 48. Best display of cut or potted fibrous Begonias. |

Section B.—For Amateurs.

Dahlias

- | | |
|--|--|
| Class 16. Best collection, one bloom each. | Class 54. Best specimen Rex, San Diego County seedling, cross or hybrid. |
| Class 17. Best three varieties "Cactus", one bloom each. | Class 55. Best specimen Maidenhair Fern. |
| Class 18. Best three varieties "Decorative", one bloom each. | Class 56. Best specimen tuberous Begonia. |
| Class 19. Best three varieties "Paeony", one bloom each. | Class 57. Best collection Rex Begonias, leaves on moss. |
| Class 20. Best three varieties "Single", one bloom each. | Class 58. Best specimen Rex, San Diego County seedling, cross or hybrid. |
| Class 21. Best six blooms "Pompons". | Class 59. Best specimen Maidenhair Fern. |
| Class 22. Best six blooms "Collarettes". | Class 60. Best specimen tuberous Begonia. |
| Class 23. Best collection San Diego County Seedling, one bloom each. | Class 61. Best collection Rex Begonias, leaves on moss. |
| Class 24. Best collection recent introduction. | Class 62. Best arrangement of Begonias and ferns in bowl, basket or vase. |
| Class 25. Best one bloom "White". | Class 63. Best Fern hanging basket. |
| Class 26. Best one bloom "Yellow". | Class 64. Best hanging basket other than ferns. |
| Class 27. Best one bloom "Red". | Class 65. Best foliage plant for interior decoration. |
| Class 28. Best one bloom "Pink." | Class 66. Best flowering plant for interior decoration. |
| Class 29. Best one bloom any other color. | Class 67. Best flowering plant for interior decoration. (Must be in flower.) |
| Class 30. Best one bloom San Diego County seedling. | Class 68. Best table decoration. |
| Class 31. Best vase of Dahlias not over 10 blooms. | Class 69. Best table decoration. |
| Class 32. Best jardinier arrangement of Dahlias. | Class 70. Best table decoration. |

Section C.—For Amateurs.

- Class 33. Best collection of Zinnias, not over

- three blooms each.
- Class 34. Best six blooms red or red shaded Zinnias.
- Class 35. Best six blooms pink or pink shaded Zinnias.
- Class 36. Best six blooms yellow or yellow shaded Zinnias.
- Class 37. Best six blooms any other color Zinnias.
- Class 38. Best jardinier arrangement of Zinnias.
- Class 39. Best vase, basket or other arrangement of Zinnias.
- Class 40. Best display of Asters.
- Class 41. Best display of Marigolds.
- Class 42. Best display of Cannas.
- Class 43. Best display of Gladiolas.
- Class 44. Best display of Annuals.
- Class 45. Best display of Perennials.
- Class 46. Best basket of Annuals.
- Class 47. Best new flower or plant not before exhibited.
- Class 48. Best display of cut or potted fibrous Begonias.
- Class 49. Best display of tuberous Begonias.
- Class 50. Best one specimen fibrous Begonia.
- Class 51. Best one specimen tuberous Begonia.
- Class 52. Best one specimen Rex Begonia.
- Class 53. Best collection Rex Begonias, leaves on moss.
- Class 54. Best specimen Rex, San Diego County seedling, cross or hybrid.
- Class 55. Best specimen Maidenhair Fern.
- Class 56. Best specimen tuberous Begonia.
- Class 57. Best collection Rex Begonias, leaves on moss.
- Class 58. Best arrangement of Begonias and ferns in bowl, basket or vase.
- Class 59. Best Fern hanging basket.
- Class 60. Best hanging basket other than ferns.
- Class 61. Best foliage plant for interior decoration.
- Class 62. Best flowering plant for interior decoration.
- Class 62. Best flowering plant for interior decoration. (Must be in flower.)
- Section E.—For Amateurs.
- Class 63. Best table decoration.
- N. B. Table decoration may be completely changed for each day of exhibit. Award will be made by popular vote each day of show.

There will be but six tables, so make reserva-

Continued on page 11

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

In Our Elfin Woodlands

By RALPH W. SUMNER

The last days of July can hardly be called wildflower season, and yet the wildflowers of spring are still with us. I do not mean their memory, true as that certainly is, but the plants themselves. Oh, you say, they are dead and dried up; yes, perhaps, some of them, but instead of seeming mysterious I'll tell you about a recent ramble into "Adolphia Canyon".

The trip was made before sun up and in the coolness of the early morning I found it delightful, where later in the day, the sun, undisturbed by any sort of breeze, would have made it indeed a hot house of nature, with the moisture left out. Primarily I went to see a certain shrub that makes its home there, the "Summer-flowering Manzanita", (*Comarostaphylis diversifolia*). The Arbutus-like berries have just taken on a tinge of red, and although smaller than the "Revolute-leaved Manzanita" (*Arctostaphylos bicolor*). They are arranged in a graceful pendant fashion along the peduncle, forming a pyramidal cluster sometimes four inches long. Each berry has a persistent brown style, and collectively the effect is a fine fringe.

As I went on down the canyon, the beauty of the morning was sweet in the air. "Wild Buckwheat" (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) on the south slope was the show plant most in evidence. Its flower clusters, many of them, had taken on a decided red brown that was rich and very pleasing. The "Western Sumac" (*Rhus laurina*) held at arms length on every branch a large cluster of small red berries, where earlier in the season the glossy red leaves of the young growth had in like manner attracted us.

Picking my way through the brush I discovered some slender, upright stems, chalk white, except for the small brown, deeply cut opposite leaves. Each stem was subtended by a tiny white bud, and, puzzled at first I cast about for further evidence. Not far off were larger plants with developed flower heads, which gave the clue wanted. Here then was a tragedy in nature. The smaller ones were young plants of "Golden Yarrow" (*Eriophyllum confertiflorum*), caught by the furnace-like heat of a midday canyon, and turned into flinty, but attractive white and brown fossils. No spray of coral could be more wonderfully formed than these once growing plants. Their first name is of interest, too. Erio, meaning woolly, and phyllum,

leaf; and so they are, when young, very woolly, but later only the stem remains cloaked.

You will remember in one of my early spring articles referring to this canyon, I spoke of the graceful "Maidenhair" (*Adiantum emarginatum*), the cosmopolitan "Silverback" (*Gymnogramma triangularis* var. *viscosa*) and other ferns. What of them now in the fierce heat of this "East and West" canyon. I'll try to tell you. The same little colonies of "Maidenhair" are still there, but transformed. The smooth blackish brown steams are the same, but the pinnules are dark tan with streaks of reddish brown, spreading fan-shaped from base to edge. In spots where the sun filtered onto them and through them, they gave forth a warmth of color hard to describe. One might liken them to sunburned fairy maidens at play. Nearby, and in fact, under nearly every bush, were some white fairies with wings folded, and with bowed heads, resting from strenuous springtime frolic. They were "Silverbacks" withstanding the heat and drouth of summer in very attractive dress. The fronds of this little fern fold up, turning their silvery, powdered back to the light and heat, thus reflecting it as a white parasol does better than a black one; doing it, however, but once, and reviving when the damp winter rains give the signal. The following season they succumb, and lie broken and gray ready to replenish the leafy mold in which they like to grow.

There is a certain annual that grows in about every section of the country, and one that probably bears the name weed, thriving in the heat of summer, and looking very much like a tarweed. Let us examine it closely, and then I feel sure you will want to call it by its right name "Birdsbeak" (*Cordylanthus filifolius*). Its branching, rather stiff stems, almost put it in the shrub class. The white flowers are nearly hidden in a tuft of deeply cut bracts, subtending every twig. The very narrow small leaves, from which the plant gets its second name, *filifolius*) are rather sparse, but the flower bracts are ample and edged with short, white hairs, and their tips carry a black gland, practically without any sticky oil that makes the real tar weed so obnoxious. In spite of appearance these plants can be handled without fear of stain or stickiness, so the next enjoyable discovery will not be marred by that sort of thing. It is to the flower itself I want to call

your attention. It so much resembles a young bird's beak that the common name will easily be remembered. If you open the mouth wide, it will stay open, disclosing four prettily fringed stamens. In the white throat are two concurring purple marks often appearing as a small horseshoe. The slender style is tipped with a gracefully curved stigma, almost hidden in the beak. All this can be seen with the naked eye, but get your lens to work and see the wonderful texture of it all. Another thing you will probably notice is that it has a nectar tube. Most boys and girls readily recognize this in flowers nearly as well as a bee, but here is a plant that the bees haven't the key to. They cannot get in. Mr. and Mrs. Hummingbird know how to do it, however, and go after the nectar in their usual way with such flowers, by piercing the tube with their needle-like beak.

There were other friends in the canyon that I wanted to see, particularly some large "Mountain Mahogany" (*Cercocarpus betulae-folius*). The seed vessels are tipped this time of the year with a long feathery tail with which it flies and whirls away to the ground. The rather small leaves are ribbed and toothed like those of the Birch, hence the specific name *betulae-folius*. This shrub grows mostly in the mountains and plantings so near the coast are rare.

There is a shrub one often sees on the mesas eastward of the city, in fact it is to be found in Balboa Park, that stands out rounded and green and often alone. Its foliage is brown-like with green stems and small narrow leaves. In the late summer the numerous seed vessels with their silvery pappus literally cover the bush and attract a good deal of attention. It is *Baccharis sarothroides* and belongs to the large family of *compositae*, and to the same tribe as the Aster.

Another bushy plant of this same tribe, but of very different aspect is *Isocoma veneta vernonioides*. Its numerous yellow heads are just beginning to bloom, and it is so plentiful on mesas and hillsides that it deserves notice. The leaves are sharply toothed on the upper half, and in their axils are clustered a bunch of smaller ones. Another form known as *I. decumbens* grows plentifully on the adobe mesas in the northeastern section of the city. It sprawls about in very weedy fashion. Because of its long name I suggest that you simply call it "*Isocoma*" as all of ours are very much alike—the accent mark coming after the *c*.

It is getting warm and "dry" so let us finish our ramble at Mission Beach and cool off in old Neptune's domain.

The plant growth on this sandspit is exceedingly interesting. It is mostly made up of splendid examples of sand-binding plants as the numerous hummocks and sand dunes

testify. Take for instance the light gray weedy-looking plant with narrow lobed leaves, *Franseria bipinnatifida*. It looks and acts very much like its first cousin "Burrow weed" (*Franseria dumosa*) of the desert. The young plant sends down long roots, and as the wind piles the sand about it, it keeps poking out its head a little higher and reaching out a branch a little further till a great mound of sand is formed, and tied by roots and branches. So the "Spit" has been reinforced a little higher here and wider there till it becomes as firm as the mainland.

The two "Sand Verbenas", *Abronia maritima*, with deep purple flowers and sticky leaves, and *Abronia umbellata*, the slender stemmed, pink flowered one, play a very important part in this sand tying work, and the pretty flower head, especially the pink one, has a clean, thrifty look about it. Intermingled is another co-worker, lending an interest with its bright yellow flowers, and silky whitened leaves and branches, "Beach Primrose" (*Sphaerostigma viridescens*). All the creeping "Evening Primrose" have a tiny sphere-like stigma, hence the genus name "*Sphaero-stigma*".

Here and there are heavy clumps of stiff, sharp-pointed "Rush" (*Juncus acutus* var. *sphaerocarpus*)—now as a diversion see if you cannot find out what that variety name means. A native "Ice plant" (*Mesembryanthemum acquilaterale*) too, is on the working force. This is the one with the "Beach apple" and you'll have to hurry if you get one to eat.

As one rides along towards home and glances out over flower-bedecked sand dunes beyond to the deep blue sea and white curling surf, or, perhaps on to a golden sunset, or eastward across Mission Bay to distant hills and mesas, the whole scene, earth, air and water tinted pink with a beach sunset glow, is a pleasure not easily described. The darkness settled down, and the night sky sparkled a reassuring message of patience and courage, each twinkling star plainly saying, "I have a part in the infinite plan". So, too, I could not but think of the lowly sand-binding plants back there on the Sand Spit, many of them beautiful, some coarse and weedy, but all hardy and lending a hand in the upbuilding of the earth. Many years old are these modest creeping plants, much older than one might suspect. Perhaps digging into the sand dune would reveal some remarkable history. At least the rooting stems are year by year carrying on this great plan of their Creator, loyal and true, and uncomplaining of their small individual part, but collectively assisting in a great work. If this is true of inanimate plants how much greater is our obligation who have been given dominion over the works of His hand.

The September Gardens

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

The welcome change in temperature the last few days makes one more ambitious to exercise in the garden, and the lengthening nights and shorter days remind us that September is a month of preparation and planting for the winter garden.

In beginning your garden operations for preparing your ground, do not forget to first apply a liberal allowance of well-rotted manure. After this, furrow your land and give it a thorough soaking by running water in the furrows long enough to thoroughly wet to a depth of two or three feet. When dry enough to spade, dig to a depth of 10 inches or a foot, and let it lie for a few days before proceeding any further. Then rake down to a fine surface in sections, according as you are ready to plant, and proceed to planting and seeding in rows about three feet apart in the most convenient direction for irrigating.

If your ground has been cropped before it is important to plant different vegetables than the ones you had in the same ground last year. In type and character of growth the succeeding plant should differ as much as possible from the plant which it follows. This is both for the purpose of avoiding attacks by insects and diseases, and to insure the second crop shall be thoroughly nourished. A good plan is not to have root plants, such as beets, carrots, or plants of the same family, such as cabbage or Brussel sprouts, or tomatoes and peppers, follow each other. It is a good plan to divide the plants into root crops, fruiting crops, and foliage crops, and have members of the different groups alternate.—During September a long list of seeds and plants can be put in the ground including beans, cabbage, both plans and seed, also cauliflower, garlic and onion seed and sets of kale, lettuce, radish, parsnip, peas and turnips. You should also get in a few potatoes to mature before Xmas. Do not make the mistake of planting your seeds too deep. Most small vegetable seed can be planted about half an inch deep, beet seed about one inch and peas and beans from one and a half to two inches. On the other hand do not plant your potatoes too shallow. Cut your seed to two strong eyes and plant five or six inches deep in rows two and a half to three feet apart and about one foot apart in the row.

THE FLOWER GARDEN

By Mary A. Matthews.

"Hardy trees, shrubs, vines, plants and bulbs rapidly compound their beauty and value year after year. Ten dollars wisely spent upon a hardy garden will produce more beautiful effects, more variety, interest, pleasure and artistic satisfaction than a hundred dollars invested in bedding plants could ever do."

The above forms the preface, so to speak, to a long long list of hardy plants, from the catalog of a noted grower of these things, containing among others the names of many of our native California plants, one whole page being given to the Penstemons of this section,—their beauty, ease of transplanting, and durability after planting. He urges us to collect these things whenever we have the chance, try growing them in our own gardens in favorable spots where with proper care they will soon develop into things of beauty—far beyond much of the stuff brought from far away places at great risk and expense. Fremontia, and California poppies are good examples of what we can do with natives in the locality.

If you are going to invest your money in hardy plants, bulbs, etc., this is the month to make your lists, send in your orders, and plan your hardy border or beds with many things. If you buy two or three plants of it take good care of it through the winter, by spring these will have increased so that they can be divided up so as to make a large planting of them. For instance, last fall I had from a florist one good plant or clump, you might say, of the new hardy aster Climax. This, in the spring, I was able to separate so as to get seven or eight blooming plants from it. Where one wants to raise hardy plants in large quantities the least expensive way is from cuttings or seeds. With the seeds it takes usually a year before they reach maturity,—with bulbs the increase of stock is very rapid; for instance Gladiolus and also Iris, if grown properly, multiply wonderfully. If you have an especially beautiful Gladiolus and want to increase your stock of it when you lift the bulbs after blooming save all the little bulblets or cormels that are around it, plant them in a moist, sandy soil they will push up after a while like blades of grass, can be grown on 'till they are of blooming size, giving you an

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

Continued from page 5

When planting either seeds or plants have plenty of bottom moisture so as to bring seed up, after which cultivate continuously and carefully. A number of early flowering bulbs can go in this month and likewise a goodly list of flower seeds.

SOIL-BUILDING POWER OF TREES

Certain kinds of trees, like the locust and the acacias, build up poor soil through the nitrogen-gathering bacteria in the root nodules, according to the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. The soil-building farmer should not overlook. Steep lands, which have been cleared of timber at much expense, after being cultivated for a few years often become gullied, and the rich lands adjoining are covered with deep deposits of sand. The surest and cheapest method of protecting such slopes is to maintain forests on them.

Small gullies can be stopped up by closely packed brush and tree tops, anchored by stakes if necessary. Large, open gullies are checked successfully only by planting over the entire gully basin, supplemented by low brush dams across the larger units of the gully.

MAY GROW ALL OUR FIGS

It is not improbable that this country will soon produce all the figs it needs. This statement is made by the chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, in his report on the progress of Smyrna fig culture in California. Much of the success of this enterprise has been due to the fact that the department has been able to maintain a caprifig orchard at Loomis, from which caprifigs have been distributed free to growers. Before this distribution was arranged for many small growers of Smyrna figs became discouraged and some even dug up their orchards. The relationship between these two varieties is that the Smyrna fig is fertilized by an insect which lives on the caprifig. When Smyrna figs and caprifigs are planted together the caprifigs do not bear enough fruits to caprify the crop properly until several years after the trees begin to bear. For this reason a young orchard is dependent on importing the needed caprifigs during the first few years. It was to supply this need that the fig orchard at Loomis was leased by the department. Many new varieties of caprifigs have been brought to light, some of them very important in commercial Smyrna fig culture. Many thousands of seedling figs have been distributed to co-operators in the fig-growing regions of California, Arizona and Texas, and some promising new va-

THE FLOWER GARDEN

Continued from page 5

increase true to name of your favorite. Lilies can be increased in the same way. Where in lifting a scale or section of bulb is broken off it can be treated just as a bulblet, and after awhile will develop into a blooming bulb. Continue to plan for the winter garden, put in seeds of poppies, Calendulas, Scarlet Flax, Mignonette, and many others that can be planted in the open. Continue to sow seeds of choice things in flats, transplant as soon as they have made a few true leaves, giving plenty for summer blooms, plant freesias, oxalis, early narcissus, alliums, etc., this month. The small flowered early blooming gladiolus should also go in. There are one or two new kinds in this class being advertised, a coral red one, also a pale lilac blotched with white. This small flowered section of the gladiolus should be more freely grown here as they do well and can be grown in the open where as in the east they are grown only in the green house but by the thousands for decoration, for which they are well adapted. Some of the new freesias, the so-called "rainbow freesias", must be beautiful. I agree with Miss Sessions, in saying it is up to us to take hold of all these new things to cultivate, propagate and experiment with, then not let the rest of the country go ahead of us while we sit back and say, "Oh, yes, we can grow all those things in San Diego", but do not do it.

Of course we do not all of us care for the same things, but we can each one of us take our favorite and work along that line 'till we have put it in a class by itself.

The time for the FALL FLOWER SHOW is approaching. The committee in charge has fixed the date as October 10, 11 and 12, of which further announcement will be made later in the daily press. Be grooming your dahlias, zinnias or whatever fall flowers you happen to have, for this event. The Floral Association wishes to re-emphasize the fact that there is a place for every exhibitor—whether he chooses to exhibit one flower or several hundred. Urge your friends and neighbors to exhibit. Remember, too, that the privilege of exhibiting at this or any other show is open to every lover of flowers whether a member of the association or not.

rieties have been originated by a proper selection of male pollen.

In the fall of 1917 the fig insect was established in some old seedling caprifig trees in Brunswick, Ga., and since then a number of caprifig trees have been similarly treated.

Continued on page 12

THE AUGUST MEETING

A very delightful meeting was held at Mr. and Mrs. Frevert's on Tuesday evening August the 17th.

The members and their friends were taken through the garden by the host and hostess and Captain and Mrs. Miller, who are also members of the household. The glass and lath house contain a great many varieties of ferns and begonias, any of which could be named without hesitancy by our guides. There is a large bed for slips on one side of the lath house in which many young plants have been started. Whenever a visitor comes to the Frevert home who is interested in begonias, he goes away with some addition to his collection. Many a person when viewing their beauty has become an immediate convert and has returned to his home laden with a number of plantlets which later become the nucleus of a more extensive collection, this in turn will stimulate some other human to see what he can do, so sooner or later the Freverts must bear the responsibility of having started an endless chain of lath houses—then, when obliged to irrigate far into the night, or to rise early in the morning we may have the satisfaction of blaming them for ever having started us on our career as begonia fiends. All four of these good people spend most of their time gardening and the lath house, as well as every available garden spot, show the results of their efforts. One felt as though wandering through a jungle of begonias. Great clusters of blossoms hung everywhere as the planting of the tall flowering varieties has not been limited to the lath house. A rather recent acquisition has been a glass house which is connected by a doorway with the sitting room. The Freverts have been very successful indeed in raising gloxinias from seed. Many specimens were arranged attractively here and there among the begonias and ferns and caused exclamations of delight from the members as they wandered about.

All those who did not attend have much to regret, as we were not only given the pleasure of seeing what may be done under cultivation, but were given the rare treat of viewing Mr. Harold Taylor's slides of what nature accomplishes unassisted. It was with difficulty that we were persuaded to leave the garden and assemble for the meeting.

In the absence of the President, Miss Sessions presided. She introduced the subject of the evening, "California Wildflowers" and gave a short talk on some of the native plants which are well adapted for cultivation. She spoke particularly of the *Fremontia*, showing us specimens of two varieties the *Californica* and *Fremontia Mexicana*. The latter is the more attractive, both the leaves and

blossoms are larger than the former variety.

Mrs. Greer brought a branch of the Jerusalem Thorn or *Parkinsonia aculeata*. She has a very fine specimen of this growing in her yard. This is one of our native plants and well worth cultivating. It is a very graceful, feathery tree with shaded yellow and red blossoms, and is in bloom at this season.

Mr. Taylor's colored slides followed the talk and as each was shown on the screen, he spoke a few words of explanation. The slides were very beautiful and the subjects well chosen. They proved Mr. Taylor a true lover of nature and made us proud, not only of our native growth, but of numbering among our citizens one who is capable of bringing their beauty to us. At the conclusion of the wild flower slides a number of sunset views were shown.

Mr. Ralph Sumner, who knows wild flowers and our back country thoroughly, spoke briefly of some of his favorites. Among others, he mentioned the *Ocotilla* and corrected the impression the Secretary had, that this plant belonged to the cactus family. She apologizes for this erroneous statement given in her last article. It is a member of the Tamarisk family; the generic name *Fouquieria* commemorates a famous French Doctor of medicine, P. E. Fouquier.

Mr. Sumner showed us a very clever device for preserving specimens which he takes with him when he goes forth on his collecting expeditions. His case consists of two perforated boards which are the size of a newspaper folded once, and the specimens are dried between these. The perforations lighten the boards and also facilitate the drying process. Two pieces of wood about an inch wide are nailed across the width of the boards at right angles extending several inches beyond them above and below. A stout cord is wound about these fastening the two boards firmly together. A leather strap which forms the handle completes the case.

Our President, the Horticultural Commissioner, had been called to Campo in order to assist a grower to persuade the wily squirrel to leave his crops alone, so no business was conducted at the meeting.

LEDA KLAUBER, Secretary

THE FALL FLOWER SHOW is near. Help make it an event.

"In the family, as in the State, the best source of wealth is economy. It is a good revenue."—Cicero.

—BUY W. S. S.—

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

BEGONIAS FOR HEDGES

Fidella G. Woodcock.

The true relation of things that are and of the things are dreamed of goes a good way to perfect the possible in things to be. Seekers of truth who begin with disposition of tin cans in their own back yards or in vacant lots will in time arrive as near the sane and beautiful in life as one can be in this world. For the spirit of content gets a very strong hold upon the personality by means of its grip on the surroundings. It is sometimes a happy thought to start in with an ideal of creating beauty in a hedge fence—then the antennae of feeling are free to find greater glories.

The evolution of a cool greenhouse from an ordinary dooryard is an interesting subject to everyone who cares for gardens. Members of the San Diego Floral Association who have the privilege of visiting the grounds of persons who have made a success of them are especially favored. In fact, city dooryards in such a favorable climate as ours give an amount of shelter from which plants of all kinds would derive enough protection to warrant luxuriant foliage and blooming the year around, and the evergreen bloomers would do exceptionally well.

The effect of a warm house can be obtained by carrying the border lathing to some distance overhead for exotic wall plants, making the rafters overhead conveniently high for tree-like kinds, leaving an open space in the centre for recreation, the clothes line, a fish pool and a tea garden.

This plan has been carried out in a comfortable sized yard by Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Frevert, who have built in their home grounds, their landscape garden with occasional assistance of a gardener.

The tall growing begonias, fond of climbing to the rafters are outside of the glass house that contains Rex begonias coming to perfection, Marantas, Achimenes, Tydeas, and an unusually handsome collection of Gloxinias, the flowers of which measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 inches across, that Mrs. Frevert has brought out by her own special treatment.

The Frevert collection is another type of cultivation by a different treatment of the same species in many cases as those at Rosecroft described in the July number of the Garden.

As an amateur, Mr. Alfred D. Robinson, has made an unusual success of raising seedlings of the tuberous rooted begonia. He has fourteen hundred young plants in his lath-house ready for blooming, not from *Viaude*, as misunderstood in the former description

of his collection. But from the viewpoint of the more vigorous half hardy growing of the city garden his culture does not develop in begonias the strong canes of those in the Frevert cool green house.

In transporting soil for leaf loam beds in gardens there is danger of introducing stray slips of *Rhus diversiloba*, the poison oak of California, the mischievous effect of which can be counteracted in the skin poisoning by taking an antidote *Rhus Tox*, a homeopathic remedy of small pellets taken internally. When once the poison oak vine gains a foothold in mountain loam in which it is found, it spreads rapidly, hardly to be distinguished from some of the lianas. In autumn its brilliant hue around the trees has the illusion of beauty, but the non-volatile oil that the whole plant sheds by evaporation falls on other plants that scatter its poison that once introduced into the human organism causes intense irritation and pain. Among bedding plants it is not to be tolerated, even though its leaves are as hand

We have told—

you about ants and we are making a good many families happy by taking away their ant worries, but we have something new to tell you this time.

The Cutter Bar Bermuda Lawn Rake and the Lawn Weeding Rake are now available for the first time and are two wonderful garden tools. They make the old lawn look like new and don't break your back.

We will be pleased to tell you about ants or rakes.

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some as those of the *Acanthus* species such as *Justicia* and *Jacobinia*.

Summer is the season when tuberous and fibrous-rooted bedders bloom heavily and *Begonia corallina* with its varieties *maculata*, *argyrostigma*, *lucerne*, and *elegantissima* reach the pergola top, while *Marjorie Daw*,—very similar to the corallinas, perhaps a hybrid, shows great brilliancy with dark green canes and leaves often spotted with white and bending trusses of coral—red glowers on long peduncles.

On the list of tree-like forms that reach a height of four or five feet with leaves from four to six inches across is *Begonia nitida*, a quite smooth and shining perennial, becoming woody at the base when mature. The flowers are on long, axillary peduncles—pale pink with a silvery blush color, the male flowers measuring one and one-half inches across. Its variety *Begonia odorata alba* has smaller flowers white and sweet-scented.

And these are the most prominent bedders that bloom in winter as well as in summer under lathhouse protection. But nearly two hundred types and hybrids have been cultivated with success in the Frevert collection. The following list shows standard forms that grow well with those already mentioned:

Begonia:

manicata.

manicata var. *aureo-maculata*.

manicata Hybrids.

Mme. de Lesseps.

Thurstonii.

metallica—Variations.

argentea-guttata.

Bismarckii.

President Carnot.

coccinea—Many hybrids.

semperflorens—The Vernon Group, planted as a bedder along avenues.

Viaude.

sanguinea—Leaves green, blood-red beneath and on the veins.

decora.

ricinifolia—Has leaves like those of the castor oil plant.

Haageiana—Cymes, three to 16 inches in diameter.

This is one of the most beautiful plants of the genus. A red-haired species best known by the hairy covering of the whole plant that is shrub-like.

longipes—Tall, stout, large-leaved, flower clusters hang on excessively long peducles.

Goegoensis—The Fire King. From Goego, Sumatra.

A compact large plant with rounded leaves six inches long with blistered surface and dark bronzy blotches.

Evansiana—discolor. Having two distinct

colors on leaf.

Scharffiana.

When well grown a handsome bracket plant requiring warmth and care. In the open it is an herbaceous perennial of good proportions.

fulgens—A handsome low-growing stock species.

Verschaffeltiana.

A palm-leaved hybrid of *manicata* *x* *caroli-*

niafolia producing large quantities of small rose-colored flowers. This species has a high decorative value.

caroliniafolia—The leaves are palmate with distinct united entire divisions.

vitifolia—Grape-like leaves.

ulmifolia—Elm-like leaves, not large.

lucidum—Shining, purplish leaves. Flowers bright red.

Imperialis—A brownish-green plant with green bands irregular near the nerves.

rubella—Leaves green spotted with dark brown.

Feastii—A recent creation of hanging baskets.

Bunchii—Similar to *Feastii*.

Hydrocotylefolia—A ground cover with a profusion of pink flowers.

Gilsonii—Varieties. A double flowered fibrous-rooted begonia.

Conchaefolia—Shell-like leaf, Spiral.

One more:

A group of the most graceful begonias is that derived from *Begonia fuchsoides*. The prettiest of which are *foliosa* with the smallest leaves of any and *Ingramii*—very desirable form. While this number represents standard forms that thrive with wall protection in the yards of sunny exposure about San Diego there are many others in the Frevert collection that require special culture. Wherever the cactus hedges will flourish the Mexican begonias will bear cultivation. Some of the common wild forms with succulent leaves are native forage plants with the *Opuntia* in certain sections of the Mexican boundary. Those included on the lists of this paper are all desirable for the open lath-houses about San Diego.

LEATHER AS FERTILIZER

One of the Garden readers suggests that the trimmings from the cobblers' shops might well be utilized as fertilizer for our gardens. A comparatively small shop—a one-man institution—will produce over a barrel of this by-product per week, of which at present no use is made. We see no reason why the suggestion is not worthy of consideration.

Don't forget that **your** exhibit is needed at the **FALL FLOWER SHOW** Oct. 10, 11, 12.

A Letter from Overseas

West Hartlepool, England,

July 3, 1920.

To the Readers of the "California Garden":

I have often thought of you lately and wondering as to how you were all getting on and when the "Garden" arrived the other day it was time I was getting a move-on and writing you a few lines. Well, this year has not been a success so far as the weather was concerned. The spring broke out very cold and wet and we could not get anything planted until very late and then after we did, we had a month of cold nights and foggy days, so that everything was starved and could not grow. Even up to the end of June we had white hoar frosts every night, so you may know what we here have to contend with. Potatoes have only turned out moderately for the early varieties, but we are hoping the later ones will be better. They are very scarce just now and we have to pay four shillings for fourteen pounds. Lettuce, radishes and cabbage are only just beginning to grow. Rhubarb has been quite a failure. The fruit crop is also very poor. So you see we are not so well situated as you as regards weather conditions. This is one of the disadvantages of living so near the North Sea. We get the cold blasts from Norway and Sweden whenever the wind is in the East. I am passionately fond of pansies and had a nice lot of seedlings, but they have so "blue" lot of seedlings, but they have been so "blue" with the sold that I doubt they will not survive, also a few seedling carnations. Our dahlias are wasting in pots in frames as we cannot get them planted out.

Last week we had the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Show of all England, a few miles from here at a place called Darlington. It is the largest show of any kind in the country. The attendance from all over England, Scotland and Ireland was about fifty thousand daily and the entries and receipts have broken all previous records. A damper was, however, put on the show, as on the third day a terrific thunderstorm broke loose, with very vivid lightning. The rain came down in torrents and it has been practically raining all the time since. It started again at seven this morning and has been all day and as I write it is literally coming down in sheets. If only we get some warm weather after it it will do good, but if not we shall be in a bad way. You are often troubled in San Diego over the water question, but if you could have replanted San Diego over here for a week it would have saved your irrigating for quite a while. I must not forget to men-

tion the special item of interest at the Royal Show. It was a pig weighing **fourteen cwt.** (that's a fact). What a beauty for the Chicago tanners, or just fancy having him on a plate for lunch with some green peas. It was too fat to stand and had to lie down. No wonder! I am endeavoring to obtain an account of the Royal Show exhibits and will send same to your Editor when received. Well, the day is drawing to a close, so I think I will follow suit. Hoping that you will all have a good horticultural year and try to keep up the reputation of San Diego.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) W. C. KING.

PUBLIC LIBRARY EXHIBIT

A month or more ago the San Diego Public Library arranged an exhibit of specimens of foliage, cones, wood and photographs of trees to be found in the various "vacation grounds" in different portions of this state. Upwards of ten species were shown, including *Platanus racemosa* (Western Sycamore), *pinus ponderosa* (Yellow Pine), *Librocedrus decurrens* (Incense Cedar), *Alnus rhombifolia* (White Alder), *Quercus kelloggii* (Black Oak), *Q. chrysolepis* (Live Oak), *Abies concolor* (White Fir) and others.

In our humble opinion it would be valuable if a table with about this number of species of various ornamentals could be maintained permanently, changing the assortment from time to time, for the unquestionable educational value it would have. Perhaps some way will present itself that this could be done, and someone will present himself to do it.

ASTERS AND GOLDEN-ROD

Along the river's summer walk,
The withered tufts of asters nod;
And trembles on its arid stalk
The hoar plume of the golden-rod.
And on a ground of sombre fir,
And azure-studded juniper,
The silver birch its buds of purple shows,
And scarlet berries tell where bloomed the
sweet wild rose!

Rich gift of God. A year of time.
What pomp of rise and shut of day,
What hues wherewith our Northern clime
Makes Autumn's dropping woodlands gay,
What airs outblown from ferny dells
And clover-bloom and sweet-brier smells,
What songs of brooks and birds, what fruits
and flowers,
Green woods and moonlit snows, have in its
round been ours

—Whittier.

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PREMIUM LIST

Continued from page 2

tions early by application to show committee, Hillcrest 836. Applicant must reserve table for entire period of exhibit.

Class 64. Best general exhibit by any community outside of the City of San Diego.

RULES

1. All exhibits must be in place and properly entered by 11 a. m. of first day of show, when judging will begin and awards promptly made.

NOTE—There positively can be no variation from this rule.

2. All entries must be in the hands of the Show Committee by 9 a. m. of the opening day of exhibit. Entries made sooner will be greatly appreciated and will facilitate the handling of the show. Try and make your entries several days in advance if possible. Use your telephone.
3. All pot plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months; all other flowers and plants must have been grown by the exhibitor.

NINE—Cal garden pfa sept 3 hibitp.

Class 4. Best display of potted or boxed ferns

4. The committee on awards is authorized to give suitable award for any meritorious exhibit not named on the premium list.

5. An exhibit can be entered in one class only.
6. Vases are furnished by this association for cut flowers in the competitive classes.
9. All exhibits must be staged in conformity with conditions of this schedule; any excess or deficiency of count will subject the exhibit to disqualification.
10. All exhibits must be labeled with the correct names of the plants, on white cards 2x3 inches, which will be furnished by the committee. Names of exhibitor positively must not appear until after awards have been made.

The committee welcomes exhibits however small, single specimens, if meritorious, are very much desired.

No fee will be charged for making entries in the exhibit.

Entries may be made by telephone to Show Committee, Hillcrest 836, or in person, by mail or telephone, at the Flower Shop, 1115 Fourth Street. Use your telephone.

If your youngsters see you squandering money foolishly, they either will grow up with mighty bad habits or a poor opinion of your judgment.

—BUY W. S. S.—

SHRUBS THAT FLOWER EARLY

In its current bulletin the Arnold Arboretum says:

Prinsepia sinensis is again covered with clusters of bright yellow flowers which spring from the axils of the half-grown leaves. This *Prinsepia* is a tall broad shrub with long spreading and arching branches, and stems armed with many spines. It is perfectly hardy and the handsomest shrub *Manchuria* has contributed to western gardens. There are only two specimens in the Arboretum and these came here from Petrograd in 1903 and 1906, and it has been found difficult to propagate them by cuttings. Fortunately last year one of the plants produced for the first time a few seeds and these have germinated, so there is reason to hope if the Arboretum plants become more fruitful that this species will be a common ornament in northern gardens. It has much to recommend it as a hedge plant. The species from northern China, *P. uniflora*, is a spiny shrub with small white flowers, and although it has little beauty its value for forming impenetrable hedges may prove considerable.

Think in interest—your own interest—save and invest. War Saving Stamps pay 4 per cent interest, compounded quarterly.

—BUY W. S. S.—

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The California Garden

G. R. Gorton, Editor
Office, 945 Seventh St., San Diego, Cal.

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Elite Printing Co. 945 7th St., San Diego

Floral Association Meetings

Evening Meeting September 21st. 8 o'clock
Mrs. Jarvis L. Doyle, 1625 Plumosa Way.
Subject, Dahlias, A. D. Robinson.

Outdoor Meeting, October 5th., 2:30 P. M.
Miss Hortense Coulter, 3162 2nd. Street.

AS THE BUD, SO THE FRUIT

In the propagation of citrus fruits, buds should be selected not only from trees of known bearing proclivities, but even from limbs whose bearing proclivities are known, announces the United States Department of Agriculture in connection with its bud-selection work in California. Trees are exceedingly common, say the specialists, which in the main bear fruit of desirable type but have some limbs on which fruit varying from the accepted standard is produced.

Individual tree performance records of young trees which have been propagated from older trees confirm the previous conclusion that the characteristics of the parent tree are propagated in the progeny with no important exception or variation. The progenies in experimental plantings are producing fruit comparable in every particular to that borne by the parent trees. If the parents were large yielders or had other desirable characteristics, so have the progeny. If the parent trees were barren or relatively so, the progeny is found to be unprofitable.

The performance records of individual trees on which departmental specialists have been working for some years, as well as co-operative records secured by the growers themselves, are serving an exceedingly useful purpose in choosing the trees used as a source of budwood by the bud supply department of the pose, in that they are used as a basis for California Fruit Growers' Exchange. This department furnishes buds practically at cost from record trees to all growers and nurserymen who are desirous of securing them.

MAY GROW ALL OUR FIGS

Continued from page 6

The result is that it has been possible to caprify and bring into bearing many sterile Smyrna fig trees growing in the Southeastern States. Some of these trees bear a very high grade of fruit, promising for use as fresh fruit or for canning. It is still doubtful whether figs can be grown in the southeastern United States to advantage in a commercial way, but it is a matter of much interest and of some economic significance that many old sterile fig trees in this region are really Smyrna seedlings. Approximately half of the trees are Smyrna figs, and the others are caprified varieties.

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The FLOWER SHOP



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